

Boston Private Industry Council

Boston's Workforce Investment Board

Gary L. Gottlieb, M.D., M.B.A.
Chair

Neil Sullivan
Executive Director

July 17, 2014

Dear Attorney General Coakley,

I write this letter in support of Partners HealthCare and to highlight the vital role it plays in our local economy and community. As executive director of the Boston Private Industry Council (PIC), Boston's workforce investment board, I have had the opportunity to work with Partners HealthCare in its role as a civic and economic leader.

Partners is the number one provider of summer employment for urban teenagers, supervising and mentoring over 300 PIC high school students from the Boston Public Schools and hundreds more from other communities. Partners' school-year internship initiatives at the Brigham and Women's and Massachusetts General hospitals are the most advanced programs of their kind in the country, and they are capped with substantial scholarships for their inner-city graduates. Partners is no less committed to our adult population, providing access to employment for neighborhood residents, social services in our communities, and training and career ladders for entry level employees.

I have seen this commitment on a personal level as well, through the work of Dr. Gary Gottlieb, who chairs the Boston PIC Board of Directors. He is deeply committed to expanding our local workforce and to ensuring that young people have the education and training to take advantage of our thriving health care sector. He brings passion and rare intelligence to the pursuit of social and economic justice, and his leadership is grounded in both conscience and sound analysis.

Partners HealthCare provides work not just for doctors and nurses, but solid jobs for people from all backgrounds and walks of life. It has created programs to employ community residents with little work experience, provided career growth for existing employees and opened educational opportunities to those who thought they had none. In addition to employing more than 60,000 individuals, making it the state's largest private employer, Partners is home to the doctors and researchers who are a major reason why Boston is seen the world over as a center for medical innovation. Its prominence has benefits for the Massachusetts economy far beyond its own employee base.

It is my understanding that the agreement between Partners HealthCare and the Attorney General will serve to contain health care costs while providing quality, coordinated care in Eastern Massachusetts. As one who works closely with Partners and seen its dedication to providing economic opportunities, I am confident it will be committed to carrying out its mission to improve care coordination and to reduce costs. Just as importantly, I respect the diligence exercised by your office and the Partners team in reaching an agreement. I support the agreement and urge the court to approve it.

Sincerely,



Neil Sullivan



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